

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims provided below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-34 (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the potential for an HBV to exhibit resistance or reduced sensitivity to a ~~nucleoside or nucleotide analog selected from ADV, TFV or FTC or optionally other nucleoside or nucleotide analogs~~, said method comprising isolating DNA or corresponding mRNA from said HBV and screening for a mutation in the nucleotide sequence encoding HBV DNA polymerase ~~resulting in at least one amino acid substitution, deletion and/or addition in anyone or more of domains F and A through E or a region proximal thereto of said DNA polymerase and associated with resistance or decreased sensitivity to one or more of ADV, TFV and FTC~~ wherein the presence of such a mutation is an indication of the likelihood of resistance or reduced sensitivity to ~~said one or more of ADV, TFV and FTC~~ wherein the mutation screened for in the DNA polymerase is selected from the listing consisting of ~~rtT38K, rtA181V, rtR55H, rtY245H, rtS/T78S, rtV80L, rtN/S118N, rtN/K139K, rtE142V, rtA/T181A, rtI204M, rtQ/P/S/Stop215S, rtE/K21E, rtN/H238H, rtT128N, rtN236T, rtL180M, rtQ215S, rtT128S, rtN238T, rtI180L, rtI204M, rtN238T, rtI187V, rtN248Q, rtS256Q, rtH22V, rtA181 T, rtL180M, rtA/V200V, rtM204V, rtV214A, and rtH237H/P, rtV253G, rtN238T/A, rtN238T, rtN123N/I, rtS135Y, rtV214A1V and rtQ215Q/P/Stop/S.~~

Claim 36 (Canceled).

37. (Currently Amended) A method for determining whether an HBV strain exhibits reduced sensitivity to ADV ~~a nucleoside or nucleotide analog~~, said method comprising isolating DNA or corresponding mRNA from said HBV and screening for a mutation in the nucleotide sequence encoding the DNA polymerase ~~wherein the presence of a mutation in a region selected from the F to G domain, between F and A domains, the A domain, between the A and B domains, the B domain, between the B and C domains, to C domain, between the C and D domains, the D domain, between the D and E domain and the E domain or combinations thereof or an equivalent one or more other mutation is indicative of a variant wherein said variant exhibits a decreased sensitivity to one or more of ADV; TFV and FTC optionally other nucleoside or nucleotide analogs wherein said nucleotide sequence variant comprises a mutation in the DNA polymerase selected from the list consisting of~~ rtT38K, rtA181V, rtR55H, rtY245H, rtS/T78S, rtV80L, rtN/S118N, rtN/K139K, rtE142V, rtA1T181A, rtI204M, rtQ/P/S/Stop215S, rtE/K21E, rtN/H238H, rtT128N, rtN236T, rtL180M, rtQ215S, rtT128S, rtN238T, rtI80L, rtI204M, rtN238T, rtI187V, rtN248Q, rtS256G, rtI122V, rtA181T, rtL180M, rtA/V200V, rtM204V, rtV214A, and rtH237H/P, rtV253G, rtN238T/A, rtN238T, rtN123N/I, rtS135Y, rtV214A/V and rtQ215QIP/Stop/S.

Claims 38-52 (Canceled).

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the presence of said mutation is an indication of the likelihood of resistance or reduced sensitivity to ~~at least one of ADV or TFV.~~

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein said variant exhibits a decreased sensitivity to ~~at least one of ADV or TFV.~~